

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 /045 W
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R 191205Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3851
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS
AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 3772

FOR EUR-JOHN DAY AND DAN GOOTT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ELAB, GR

SUBJECT: ILWU TEAM TO VISIT GREECE FOR THREE WEEKS
COMMENCING MAY 18.

1. THE EMBASSY HAS JUST RECEIVED A LETTER FROM HARRY BRIDGES, PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S AND WAREHOUSE-MEN'S UNION (ILWU), ANNOUNCING A THREE-WEEK VISIT (COMMENCING MAY 18) OF A THREE-MEMBER TEAM TO VISIT GREECE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF ILWU'S OVERSEAS DELEGATES PROGRAM. THE LETTER REQUESTED THAT THE EMBASSY ARRANGE SOME INITIAL TRADE UNION CONTACTS FOR THE DELEGATION, A BRIEFING ON LIVING/WORKING CONDITIONS IN GREECE, AND INFORMATION/SUGGESTIONS FOR TRAVEL. BRIDGES ALSO REQUESTS THE EMBASSY ADVISE HIM WHETHER THESE TENTATIVE PLANS ARE ACCEPTABLE AND WHETHER EMBASSY ABLE TO ASSIST.

2. THE EMBASSY IS FORWARDING A PROPOSED REPLY TO BRIDGES, TOGETHER WITH A COPY OF HIS LETTER, TO EUR/SE (ATTENTION JOHN DAY) FOR ONWARD TRANSMITTAL IF DEPARTMENT HAS NO OBJECTION. IN SUBSTANCE, WE OFFER TO ASSIST IN MAKING THE
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APPROPRIATE TRADE UNION CONTACTS AND TO PROVIDE BRIEFINGS

REQUESTED.

3. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, A SIMILAR TRIP WAS PROPOSED LAST YEAR BY ILWU BUT WAS CANCELLED BEFORE ITS IMPLEMENTATION (SEE LETTER COLLINS TO DAY DATED JUNE 20,1975 AND 75 ATHENS 7395). EMBASSY ASSUMES GUIDANCE RECEIVED FROM DEPARTMENT RELATIVE TO THAT PREVIOUSLY PLANNED VISIT (75 STATE 152684) STILL APPLIES. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY (A) WILL NOT REPEAT NOT SERVE AS INTERMEDIARY TO ARRANGE ANY CONTACTS WITH COMMUNIST TRADE UNION OFFICIALS, (B) WILL FULLY ADVISE NON-COMMUNIST TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS AND OFFICIALS OF IDENTITY OF ILWU POINTING OUT IT IS NOT AN AFFILIATE OF AFL-CIO AND NOT REPRESENTATIVE OF THAT LATTER ORGANIZATION'S VIEWS, AND (C) WILL AVOID GIVING IMPRESSION TO EITHER GOG OR TRADE UNION OFFICIALS THAT VISIT HAS ANY USG SPONSORSHIP.
STEARNS

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 19 APR 1976
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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